The Missouri Department of Corrections prides itself on being an active and important partner in the criminal justice system. During the 2004 legislative session, the Missouri General Assembly passed numerous laws that changed the criminal justice system. Perhaps the most dramatic change was the passage of Senate Bill 1000, the expansion of DNA collection. Prior to the passage of this bill, only those offenders convicted of dangerous felonies and sex offenses were required to provide a DNA sample. The passage of SB 1000 requires the Missouri Department of Corrections to collect a DNA sample from all incarcerated offenders and most offenders under supervision in the field. These mouth swab samples are to be collected by our staff, sent to the Missouri State Highway Patrol Crime Lab, analyzed, and stored in a DNA database. Once all existing offenders have samples collected and analyzed, the DNA database will be home to the samples of over 100,000 convicted offenders in the state of Missouri. This database of DNA samples will greatly improve law enforcement's ability to solve crimes and exonerate those who may be wrongfully convicted.

Governor Holden signed Senate Bill 1000 into law on June 17, 2004 and the collection of samples will begin on January 1, 2005. The cost for DNA testing kits and analyzing the samples will be funded by court costs. All persons who are convicted of, plead no contest, or plead guilty to a felony shall pay a \$30 court cost and \$15 for misdemeanors effective August 28, 2004. The funds collected from court costs between August 28, 2004 and January 1, 2005 will be used to purchase DNA testing kits.

If you would like to read the Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed version of Senate Bill 1000, please click the link below.

Senate Bill 1000

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